

CHAPTER 3.1.4.

INFECTION WITH *HAPLOSPORIDIUM NELSONI*

Article 3.1.4.1.

For the purposes of this *Aquatic Code*, infection with *Haplosporidium nelsoni* means infection only with *Haplosporidium nelsoni*.

Methods for surveillance, diagnosis and confirmatory identification are provided in the *Aquatic Manual* [under study].

Article 3.1.4.2.

Susceptible species

For the purposes of this *Aquatic Code*, known *susceptible species* for infection with *Haplosporidium nelsoni* are: Pacific oyster (*Crassostrea gigas*) and Eastern oyster (*C. virginica*).

Clinical manifestations and disease are mainly observed in *C. virginica*.

Suspect cases, as defined in the *Aquatic Manual*, of infection with *Haplosporidium nelsoni* in species other than those listed in this Article should be referred immediately to the appropriate OIE Reference Laboratory, whether or not clinical signs are associated with the findings.

Article 3.1.4.3.

Commodities

1. When authorising import or transit of the following *commodities*, *Competent Authorities* should not require any *Haplosporidium nelsoni* related conditions, regardless of the *Haplosporidium nelsoni* status of the *exporting country, zone or compartment*:
 - a) From the species listed in Article 3.1.4.2. for any purpose:
 - i) Commercially-sterile canned or cooked products;
 - ii) *Gametes*, *eggs* and *larvae*;
 - b) The following products destined for human consumption from the species listed in Article 3.1.4.2. which have been prepared in such a way as to minimise the risk for alternative uses (a Member Country may wish to consider the need to introduce internal measures to prevent the commodity being used for any purpose other than for human consumption):
 - i) Chemically preserved products (e.g. smoked, salted, pickled, marinated, etc ...);
 - ii) Heat treated products (e.g. ready prepared meals);
 - iii) Off the shell (chilled or frozen) packaged for direct retail trade;
 - iv) Half-shell (chilled);
 - c) For *Crassostrea ariakensis*, all products.

2. When authorising import or transit of the *commodities* of a species listed in Article 3.1.4.2., other than *commodities* listed in point 1 of Article 3.1.4.3., *Competent Authorities* should require the conditions prescribed in Articles 3.1.4.7. to 3.1.4.11. of this Chapter, relevant to the *Haplosporidium nelsoni* status of the *exporting country, zone or compartment*.
3. When considering the import or transit of any other commodity from bivalve species not listed in Article 3.1.4.2. from an *exporting country, zone or compartment* not declared free of *Haplosporidium nelsoni*, *Competent Authorities* of the *importing country* should conduct an analysis of the risk of introduction, establishment and spread of *Haplosporidium nelsoni*, and the potential consequences, associated with importation of the *commodity*, prior to a decision. The outcome of this assessment should be made available to the *exporting country*.

Article 3.1.4.4.

***Haplosporidium nelsoni* free country**

A country may declare itself free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni* if it meets the conditions in points 1), 2), 3) or 4) below.

If a country shares a *zone or compartment* with one or more other countries, it can only declare itself a *Haplosporidium nelsoni* free country if all the areas covered by the shared water are declared *Haplosporidium nelsoni* free zones (see Article 3.1.4.5.).

1. A country where no species listed in Article 3.1.4.2. are present may declare itself free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni* when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been met continuously in the country for at least the past 2 years.

OR

2. A country where the species listed in Article 3.1.4.2. are present but there has never been any observed occurrence of the *disease* for at least the past 10 years despite conditions – in all areas where the species are present – that are conducive to its clinical expression, as described in Chapter 3.1.4. of the *Aquatic Manual*, may declare itself free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni* when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been met continuously in the country for at least the past 2 years and infection with *Haplosporidium nelsoni* is not known to be established in wild populations.

OR

3. A country where the last known clinical occurrence was within the past 10 years or where the infection status prior to *targeted surveillance* was unknown, for example because of the absence of conditions conducive to clinical expression, as described in Chapter X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, may declare itself free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni* when:
 - a) *basic biosecurity conditions* have been met continuously for at least the past 2 years; and
 - b) *targeted surveillance* as described in Chapters 1.1.4. and X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual* has been in place for at least the past 2 years without detection of *Haplosporidium nelsoni*.

OR

4. A country that had declared itself free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni* but in which the disease is detected may not declare itself free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni* again until the following conditions have been met:
 - a) on detection of the disease, the affected area was declared an *infected zone* and a *buffer zone* was established; and
 - b) infected populations have been safely destroyed or removed from the *infected zone* by means that minimise the risk of further spread of the disease, and the appropriate *disinfection* procedures (see *Aquatic Manual*) have been completed; and
 - c) *targeted surveillance*, as described in Chapters 1.1.4. and X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, has been in place for at least the past 2 years without detection of *Haplosporidium nelsoni*.

In the meantime, other areas of the remaining *territory* may be declared one or more free zones, provided that they meet the conditions in point 3) of Article 3.1.4.5.

Article 3.1.4.5.

***Haplosporidium nelsoni* free zone or free compartment**

A *zone* or *compartment* free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni* may be established within the *territory* of one or more countries of infected or unknown status for infection with *Haplosporidium nelsoni* and declared free by the *Competent Authority(ies)* of the country(ies) concerned, if the *zone* or *compartment* meets the conditions referred to in points 1), 2), 3) or 4) below.

If a *zone* or *compartment* extends over more than one country, it can only be declared a *Haplosporidium nelsoni* free *zone* or *compartment* if the conditions outlined below apply to all areas of the *zone* or *compartment*.

1. In a country of unknown status for *Haplosporidium nelsoni*, a *zone* or *compartment* where none of the species listed in Article 3.1.4.2. is present may declare itself free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni* when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been met continuously in the *zone* or *compartment* for at least the past 2 years.

OR

2. In a country of unknown status for *Haplosporidium nelsoni*, a *zone* or *compartment* where the species listed in Article 3.1.4.2. are present but there has never been any observed occurrence of the *disease* for at least the past 10 years despite conditions – in all areas where the species are present – that are conducive to its clinical expression, as described in Chapter X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, may declare itself free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni* when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been met continuously in the *zone* or *compartment* for at least the past 2 years and infection with *Haplosporidium nelsoni* is not known to be established in wild populations.

OR

3. A *zone* or *compartment* where the last known clinical occurrence was within the past 10 years or

where the infection status prior to *targeted surveillance* was unknown, for example because of the absence of conditions conducive to clinical expression, as described in Chapter X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, may declare itself free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni* when:

- a) *basic biosecurity conditions* have been met continuously for at least the past 2 years; and
- b) *targeted surveillance* as described in Chapters 1.1.4. and X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual* has been in place for at least the past 2 years without detection of *Haplosporidium nelsoni*.

OR

- 4. A *zone* previously declared free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni* but in which the disease is detected may not be declared free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni* again until the following conditions have been met:
 - a) on detection of the disease, the affected area was declared an *infected zone* and a *buffer zone* was established; and
 - b) infected populations have been safely destroyed or removed from the *infected zone* by means that minimise the risk of further spread of the disease, and the appropriate *disinfection* procedures (see *Aquatic Manual*) have been completed; and
 - c) *targeted surveillance*, as described in Chapters 1.1.4. and X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, has been in place for at least the past 2 years without detection of *Haplosporidium nelsoni*.

Article 3.1.4.6.

Maintenance of free status

A country or *zone* or *compartment* that is declared free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni* following the provisions of points 1) or 2) of Articles 3.1.4.4. or 3.1.4.5., respectively, may maintain its status as *Haplosporidium nelsoni* free provided that *basic biosecurity conditions* are continuously maintained.

A country or *zone* or *compartment* that is declared free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni* following the provisions of point 3) of Articles 3.1.4.4. or 3.1.4.5., respectively, may discontinue *targeted surveillance* and maintain its status as *Haplosporidium nelsoni* free provided that conditions that are conducive to clinical expression of infection with *Haplosporidium nelsoni*, as described in Chapter X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual*, exist and *basic biosecurity conditions* are continuously maintained.

However, for declared free *zones* or *compartments* in infected countries and in all cases where conditions are not conducive to clinical expression of infection with *Haplosporidium nelsoni*, *targeted surveillance* needs to be continued at a level determined by the *Competent Authority* on the basis of the likelihood of reinfection.

Article 3.1.4.7.

Importation of live animals from a country, zone or compartment declared free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni*

When importing live *aquatic animals* of the species listed in Article 3.1.4.2., other than *commodities* listed in point 1) of Article 3.1.4.3., from a country, *zone* or *compartment* declared free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni*, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should require an *international aquatic animal health certificate* issued by the *Competent Authority* of the *exporting country* or a *certifying official* approved by the *importing country*.

This certificate must certify, on the basis of the procedures described in Articles 3.1.4.4. or 3.1.4.5. (as applicable), whether the place of production of the consignment is a country, *zone* or *compartment* declared free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni*.

The certificate shall be in accordance with the Model Certificate in Appendix 6.3.1..

Article 3.1.4.8.

Importation of live animals for aquaculture from a country, zone or compartment not declared free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni*

When importing, for *aquaculture*, *aquatic animals* of the species listed in Article 3.1.4.2., other than those *commodities* listed in point 1) of Article 3.1.4.3., from a country, *zone* or *compartment* not declared free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni*, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should assess the risk and apply risk mitigation measures such as:

1. the consignment is delivered directly into and held in *quarantine* facilities; and
2. the imported *aquatic animals* are continuously isolated from the local environment; and
3. all effluent and waste material are treated in a manner that ensures inactivation of *Haplosporidium nelsoni*.

Article 3.1.4.9.

Importation of live animals for processing and/or human consumption from a country, zone or compartment not declared free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni*

When importing, for processing and/or human consumption, *aquatic animals* of the species listed in Article 3.1.4.2., other than any live *commodities* listed in point 1) of Article 3.1.4.3., from a country, *zone* or *compartment* not declared free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni*, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should require:

1. the consignment is delivered directly to and held in *quarantine* facilities until processing and/or consumption; and
2. all effluent and waste material are treated in a manner that ensures inactivation of *Haplosporidium nelsoni*.

Article 3.1.4.10.

Importation of products from a country, zone or compartment declared free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni*

When importing *aquatic animal products* of the species listed in Article 3.1.4.2., other than *commodities* listed in point 1) of Article 3.1.4.3., from a country, *zone* or *compartment* free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni*, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should require that the consignment be accompanied by an *international aquatic animal health certificate* issued by the *Competent Authority* of the *exporting country* or a *certifying official* approved by the *importing country*.

This certificate must certify, on the basis of the procedures described in Articles 3.1.4.4. or 3.1.4.5. (as applicable), whether or not the place of production of the consignment is a country, *zone* or *compartment* declared free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni*.

The certificate shall be in accordance with the Model Certificate in Appendix 6.3.2..

Article 3.1.4.11.

Importation of products from a country, zone or compartment not declared free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni*

When importing *aquatic animal products* of the species listed in Article 3.1.4.2., other than those *commodities* listed in point 1) of Article 3.1.4.3., from a country, ~~zone~~ or *compartment* not declared free from *Haplosporidium nelsoni*, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should assess the risk and apply appropriate risk mitigation measures.